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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/719,182	02/15/2001	Fabienne Coez	PF980036	5225

24498 7590 05/17/2005

THOMSON LICENSING INC.
PATENT OPERATIONS
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EXAMINER

TRAN, THAI Q

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2616

DATE MAILED: 05/17/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/719,182

Applicant(s)

COEZ ET AL.

Examiner

Thai Tran

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 December 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/8/2000.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

2. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because form and legal phraseology used in patent claims should be avoided. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by James et al (US 6,108,739).

Regarding claim 1, James et al discloses a process for programming actions of resources in a network of domestic devices (Fig. 1), including the steps of:

sending a request for programming an action by a client application to a manager of preprogrammed actions of a device of the network, the said programming request including a set of parameters defining the action and a list of resources involved in accomplishing the action (transactions disclosed in col. 6, lines 54-61, the request subaction having targeted, transaction label, transaction label, and sourceId disclosed in col. 7, lines 24-67),

verification by the actions manager of the availability of the resources involved in accomplishing the action (request/resend protocol, reject/resend protocol, busy/retry protocol, CONFLICT, and COMPLETE disclosed col. 8, line 51 to col. 9, line 34),

transmission to the client application of a message of acceptance or of refusal of the action on the part of the preprogrammed actions manager depending on the result of the verification (request/resend protocol, reject/resend protocol, busy/retry protocol, CONFLICT, and COMPLETE disclosed col. 8, line 51 to col. 9, line 34).

Regarding claim 2, James et al also discloses the claimed wherein the client application selects a preprogrammed action manager situated in a device other than the client application itself (the bridge 24 disclosed in col. 8, lines 45-50 and responder disclosed in col. 7, lines 23-30).

Regarding claim 3, James et al discloses the claimed of step of storage by each resource involved of its agenda with respect to the action (program instructions stored in memories 16 disclosed in col. 6, lines 20-34).

Regarding claim 4, James et al discloses the claimed wherein the verification step comprises a request of the preprogrammed actions manager from each resource involved aimed at ascertaining the availability of the resources involved by way of their respective agendas (request/resend protocol, reject/resend protocol, busy/retry protocol, CONFLICT, and COMPLETE disclosed col. 8, line 51 to col. 9, line 34).

Regarding claim 5, James et al discloses the claimed wherein, at the start time of the action, the preprogrammed actions manager performs the following tasks:

reservation of the resources involved (the bridge 24 disclosed in col. 8, lines 45-50 and request/resend protocol, reject/resend protocol, busy/retry protocol, CONFLICT, and COMPLETE disclosed col. 8, line 51 to col. 9, line 34);

establishment of the resource involved (the bridge 24 disclosed in col. 8, lines 45-50 and request/resend protocol, reject/resend protocol, busy/retry protocol, CONFLICT, and COMPLETE disclosed col. 8, line 51 to col. 9, line 34);

instigating of the commands with the resources involved (the bridge 24 disclosed in col. 8, lines 45-50 and request/resend protocol, reject/resend protocol, busy/retry protocol, CONFLICT, and COMPLETE disclosed col. 8, line 51 to col. 9, line 34).

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The cited references relate to an apparatus for connecting electronic devices.

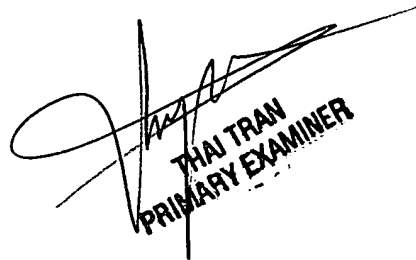
6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thai Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-7382. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. to Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

Art Unit: 2616

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TTQ



THAI TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER